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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 CIAE-00 CODE-00 PM-05 H-01

INR-13 L-03 NSAF-02 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 TRSE-02
10-13 NSCE-02 SSO-00 UTIE-00 INRE-00 /070 W
-----040504 100149Z /72

O R 092037Z MAR 78

FM AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6001

INFO AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY BASILIA

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

USCINCSO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 3 MONTEVIDEO 0779

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SEUM, UY

SUBJECT: HUMAN RIGHTS: YOU ESTABLISHES INFORMATION OFFICE TO
RESPOND TO HUMAN RIGHTS INQUIRIES

1. SUMMARY: YOU ANNOUNCED MARCH 9 ESTABLISHMENT OF A CENTRAL

OFFICE FOR INFORMATION ON PERSONS (OFICINA CENTRAL DE INFOR-

MACION DE PERSONAS - OCIP) CHARGED WITH ANSWERING INQUIRIES

OR ACCUSATIONS CONCERNING THE IMPRISONMENT OF POLITICAL

DETAINEES. THE NEW OFFICE OF INFORMATION WILL ACCEPT IN-

QUIRIES FROM ANY INDIVIDUAL OR ORGANIZATION, WITH THE

EXCEPTION OF RECOGNIZED INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND FOREIGN

GOVERNMENTS RECOGNIZED BY THE GOV, WHICH SHOULD DIRECT THEIR

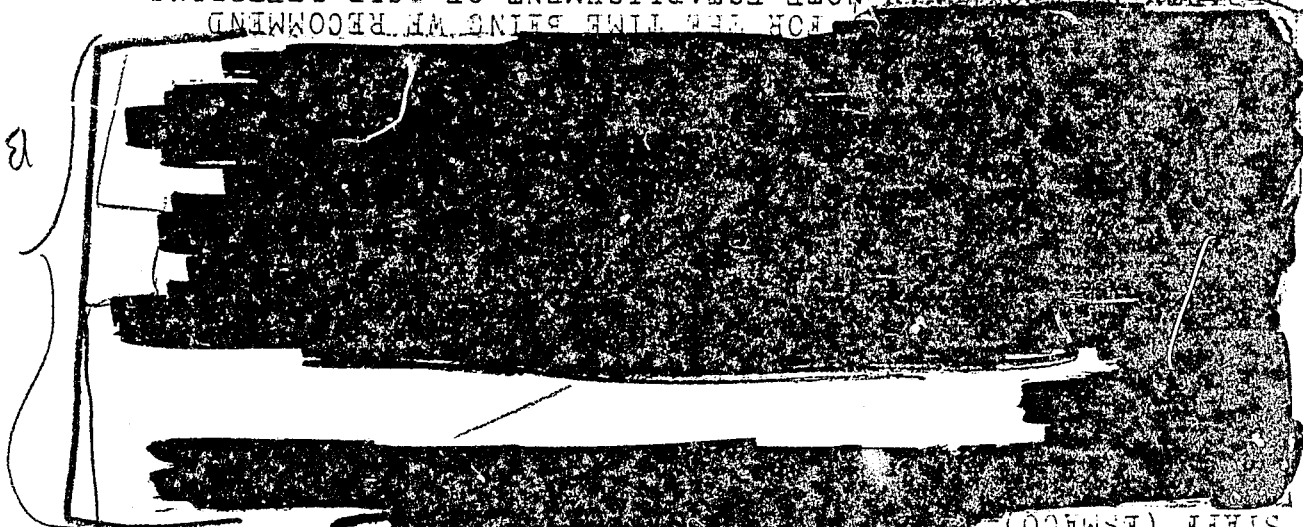
INQUIRIES TO THE FOREIGN MINISTRY. THE NEW OFFICE IS UNDER

THE GENERAL DIRECTION OF THE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

(COSENA) TO BE ADMINISTERED THROUGH ITS PERMANENT

SECRETARY, WHO IS ALSO THE CHIEF OF THE ARMED FORCES JOINT

STAFF (ESMACO)



FOR THE TIME BEING WE RECOMMEND
DEPARTMENT SECRETARY NOTE ESTABLISHMENT OF OCIP REFERRING
TO IT AS AN "ENCOURAGING DEVELOPMENT" AS PRESIDENT CARTER
DID IN HIS OCTOBER 31 LETTER TO MENDEZ. WE WILL BE AD-
VISING INDIVIDUAL AND PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS TO COMMUNICATE

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY *[Signature]* DATE *5/10*
PORTIONS DENIED AS INDICATED

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DIRECTLY WITH OCIP AND RECOMMEND DEPARTMENT DO LIKEWISE.
END SUMMARY.

2. ON MARCH 8 THE EMBASSY RECEIVED FROM COUNSELOR OF STATE DR. FREDERICO GARCIA CAPURRO A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL TEXT OF A MARCH 6 DECREE SIGNED BY THE PRESIDENT AND ALL MINISTERS ACTING IN COUNCIL WHICH CREATED A CENTRAL OFFICE OF INFORMATION ON PERSONS (OCIP), RESPONSIBLE FOR ANSWERING ALL INQUIRIES AND ACCUSATIONS FROM INDIVIDUALS AND PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS CONCERNING PERSONS "LINKED TO NATIONAL SECURITY CRIMES" (I.E. POLITICAL DETAINEES). THAT AFTER-NOON THE TABLOID MUNDOCOLOR BORKE THE STORY OF OCIP'S CREATION. MORNING OF MARCH 9 THREE PRINCIPAL DAILIES FRONT-PAGED THE ANNOUNCEMENT WITH PRO-GOVERNMENT EL PAIS REPRINTING THE DECREE WITHOUT COMMENT AND PRO-MILITARY LA MANANA AND INDEPENDENT EL DIA SUMMARIZING NEW OFFICE'S FUNCTIONS WITH MILDLY APPROVING COMMENTS.

3. FOLLOWING IS AN UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION OF FULL TEXT

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OF THE DECREE ESTABLISHING THE OCIP: QUOTE

CONSIDERING THE NEED TO CENTRALIZE ANALYSIS, STUDY AND PREPARATION OF APPROPRIATE ANSWERS TO ALL KINDS OF FOREIGN QUERIES, REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION OR ACCUSATIONS RELATED TO THE SITUATION OF PERSONS LINKED TO CRIMES COMMITTED AGAINST THE SECURITY OF THE STATE;

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INFO OCT-71 150-00 PA-05 C14E-00 70DE-00 PM-05 F-01

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 TRSI-00

10-13 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIF-00 INRE-00 /070 W

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O R 002037Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6002

INFO AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 3 MONTEVIDEO 00779

CONSIDERING THAT GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS

FREQUENTLY RECEIVE THIS TYPE OF REQUEST FROM NONGOVERNMENT

ORGANIZATIONS OR FROM PERSONS ACTING ON THEIR OWN OR REPRESENTING GROUPS OR UNOFFICIAL FOREIGN INSTITUTIONS:

CONSIDERING THE INCONVENIENCE CREATED BY THESE REQUESTS,

WHICH ARE OFTEN PART OF A CAMPAIGN PREPARED BY THE ENEMIES

OF NATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AIMED AT DISCREDITING THE TRUTH, AND

THAT THE INFORMATION MUST BE BASED ON ACCURATE REPORTS AND

IS TO BE PROTECTED IN ORDER TO DEFEAT FOREIGN PROPAGANDA:

THEFORE, THE CENTRAL OFFICE FOR INFORMATION ON PERSONS

(OFFICINA CENTRAL DE INFORMACION DE PERSONAS -- OCIDP) IS

CREATED UNDER THE GENERAL DIRECTION AND GUIDANCE OF THE

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WITH THE PURPOSE OF BEING THE

COORDINATING AND EXECUTIVE ORGANIZATION IN THIS MATTER.

IN VIEW OF THE ABOVE, THE PRESIDENT, ACTING AS HEAD OF

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS, DECREES:

AN OCIP IS CREATED UNDER THE GENERAL DIRECTION AND GUIDANCE

OF THE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL AND THE ADMINISTRATIVE

CONTROL OF THE PERMANENT SECRETARY OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL.

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THE OCIP WILL CENTRALIZE THE ANALYSIS AND STUDY OF,

AND PROVIDE APPROPRIATE ANSWERS TO, ALL TYPES OF

QUESTIES. REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION OR ACCUSATIONS RELATED

TO THE SITUATION OF PERSONS LINKED TO CRIMES COMMITTED

AGAINST THE SECURITY OF THE STATE WHICH ARE SENT TO PUBLIC

ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS BY NONGOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS OR

PERSONS ACTING ON THEIR OWN OR REPRESENTING GROUPS OR

UNOFFICIAL FOREIGN INSTITUTIONS.

EXEMPTED FROM THE ABOVE PARAGRAPH ARE FORMAL REQUESTS

PRESENTED TO THE FOREIGN MINISTRY BY GOVERNMENTS OR RECOGNIZED

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS WHICH MAINTAIN RELATIONS WITH

OUR COUNTRY, AND REQUESTS PRESENTED TO THE NATIONAL LEGIS-

LATURE IN ACCORDANCE WITH EXISTING REGULATIONS.

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ANY OFFICIAL OF THE DECENTRALIZED GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION OR MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATION WHO RECEIVES A REQUEST, WILL SUBMIT IT DIRECTLY AND IMMEDIATELY TO THE OCIP, ATTACHING ALL THE DOCUMENTS RECEIVED, INCLUDING THE UNDAAGMAGED ENVELOPE, IN THE CASE OF A WRITTEN REQUEST.

TO CARRY OUT ITS DUTIES, THE OCIP CAN GO DIRECTLY TO PUBLIC ORGANIZATIONS TO REQUEST AND RECEIVE INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTS. ANY REQUESTS SUBMITTED BY THIS OFFICE WILL HAVE FIRST PRIORITY AND THE ANSWER WILL ALWAYS BE WRITTEN. IF VERBAL ANSWER IS GIVEN, IT WILL BE CONFIRMED IN WRITING AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

THE OFFICE WILL FORMULATE THE APPROPRIATE ANSWER ON THE BASIS OF THE ACCURACY OF THE INFORMATION AND THE VERACITY OF THE FACTS, PROPERLY DOCUMENTED. BY THIS MEANS IT WILL DEFEND AND IMPROVE THE COUNTRY'S INTERNATIONAL PRESTIGE, COUNTERACTING PROPAGANDA AGAINST THE NATIONAL OBJECTIVES.

ALL PUBLIC ORGANIZATIONS MUST PROVIDE MAXIMUM COOPERATION WITH THE OCIP'S WORK. ANY LACK OF COOPERATION WILL BE CONSIDERED A SERIOUS OFFENSE.

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THE DEFENSE MINISTRY WILL PROVIDE THE NECESSARY PERSONNEL AND MEANS FOR THE INSTALLATION AND OPERATION OF THE NEW OFFICE. THIS MINISTRY IS AUTHORIZED TO PROVIDE THE OCIP WITH 100,000 NEW PESOS (US\$19,000) TO TAKE CARE OF INSTALLATION AND OPERATION EXPENSES IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE NO. 29, LAW NO. 11,925 OF 27 MARCH 1953. MONTEVIDEO BUILDING 4. THE OCIP HAS BEEN GIVEN A DOWNTOWN MONTEVIDEO BUILDING AND SHOULD SHORTLY OPEN ITS DOORS FOR BUSINESS. IT WILL REPORTEDLY BE HEADED BY A COLONEL-LEVEL MILITARY OFFICER. HIGH LEVEL MILITARY CONTACTS ASSURE US THAT THE MILITARY INTENDS FOR THE OFFICE TO FUNCTION EFFICIENTLY AND EFFECTIVELY, RESPONDING TO INQUIRIES ON THE SPOT IF POSSIBLE AND AVOIDING LONG LINES WAITING OUTSIDE. THE OFFICE SHOULD BE ABLE TO DO THIS WITH REGARD TO OLDER CASES PUT GATHERING INFORMATION ON MORE RECENT DETAINERS WILL BE A COMPLEX TASK GIVEN THE NUMEROUS POLICE AND MILITARY ENTITIES WHICH DETAIN PERSONS.

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EA-05 CIAE-00 DODI-00 PM-05 E-01
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FM AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

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INFO AMEMPASSY ASUNCION

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 3 OF 3 MONTEVIDEO 00779

MOREOVER A NEGATIVE RESPONSE FROM THE OFFICE WILL NOT
NECESSARILY BE DEFINITIVE BECAUSE WE UNDERSTAND THE
SECURITY FORCES WILL RETAIN THE RIGHT TO HOLD PERSONS
"INCOMMUNICADO" REFUSING FOR NATIONAL SECURITY REASONS
OFFICIALLY TO CONFIRM THEIR DETENTION. HOWEVER, SINCE
THE NUMBER OF SUCH INCOMMUNICADO DETAINEES IS CURRENTLY
NOT LARGE AND THE DURATION OF THEIR DETENTION IN THIS
STATUS IS USUALLY RELATIVELY SHORT, THE OCIP SHOULD BE ABLE TO
CONFIRM ALMOST ALL PERSONS ACTUALLY HELD.

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6. COMMENT: THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN OFFICE TO ANSWER
INQUIRIES FROM THE PUBLIC CONCERNING PERSONS BELIEVED
TO BE DETAINED BY THE GOV HAS BEEN ON THE DRAWING BOARD

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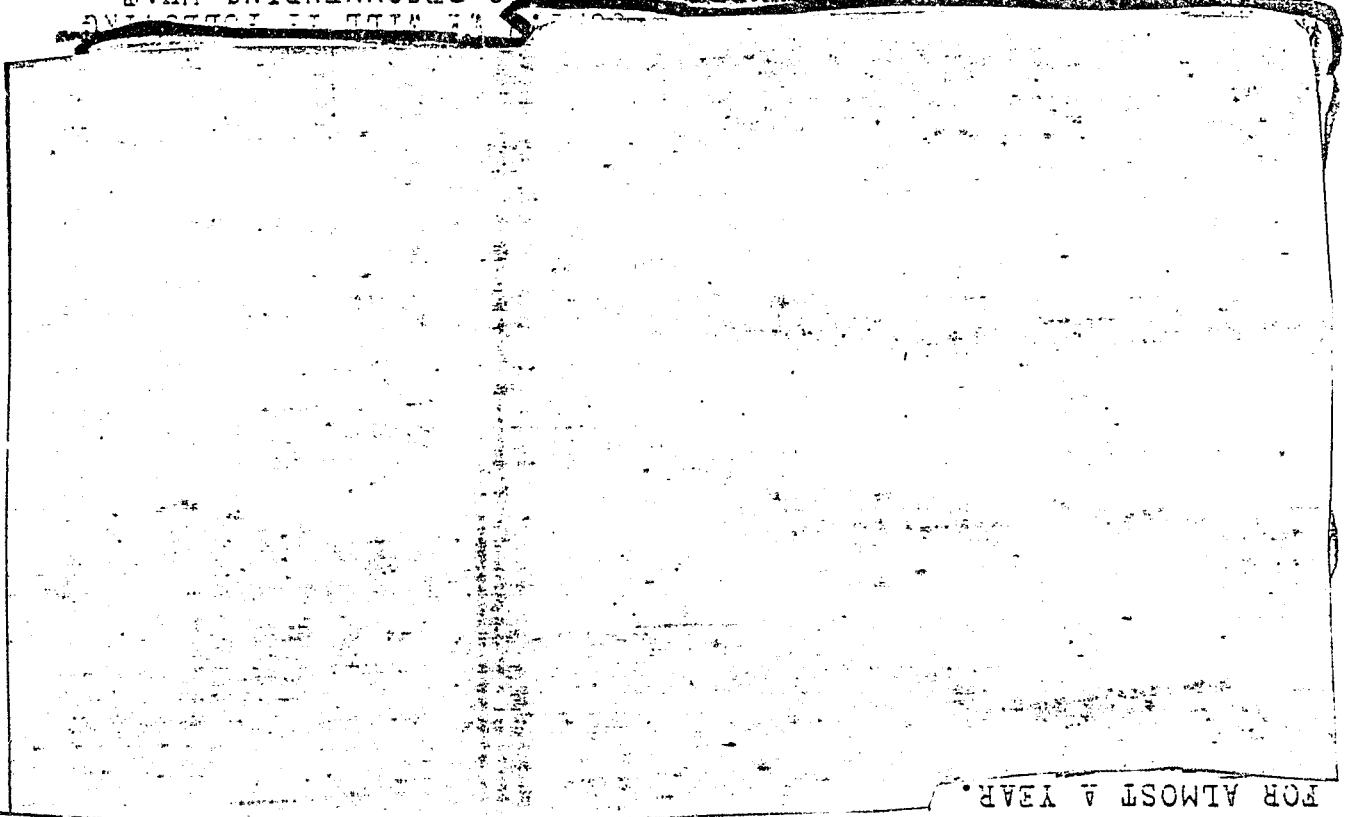
RECEIVE HERE.

WE WILL GIVE SIMILAR ADVICE IN REPLY TO SUCH INQUIRIES WHICH WE
INQUIRIES COULD BE SENT TO THE PERuvian EMBASSY WASHINGTON.)
SHORTLY TO HAVE AN ADDRESS FOR THE OCIP OFFICE BUT MEANTIME
IT TO COMMUNICATE DIRECTLY WITH THE OCIP. (WE EXPECT
ORGANIZATIONS WHICH IN FUTURE PRESENT HUMAN RIGHTS CASES TO
B. THE DEPARTMENT SHOULD ADVISE INDIVIDUALS AND PRIVATE

THE OCIP AND REFER TO IT AS AN "ENCOURAGING DEVELOPMENT."
HIS NEXT NOON BRITING NOTING THE GOV'S ESTABLISHMENT OF
A. THE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SHOULD MAKE A STATEMENT AT

TWO ACTIONS:

OUR RESPONSE SHOULD BE. FOR THE TIME BEING WE RECOMMEND
THAT DEVELOPMENT BE CLOSELY WITH A VIEW TO RECOMMENDING WHAT



FOR ALMOST A YEAR.

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